

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended, and claims 7-10 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-6 remain in this application and are again presented for the Examiner's consideration in view of the following comments.

In the Official Action, claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Specifically, the Examiner has contended that the term "lower precision" is not understood in relation to "a retrievable table" with "a broadcast time" and "the broadcast time information included in the program guide information". The Examiner has further contended that the term "lower precision" is not described in the specification.

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 4 to address this rejection. Thus, applicant submits that claims 1 and 4 as amended now set forth the subject matter of the invention in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. More particularly, claims 1 and 4 now recite that "with reference to a broadcast time included in the program guide information, each program is allocated to each time zone with a range of predetermined time on the basis of the separated program guide information." Applicant submits that support for this recitation can be found in the specification at page 21, line 1 through page 22, line 19 and Figure 17; page 22, line 20 through page 27, line 9 and Figure 18; and page 32, lines 14-19. Applicant submits that amended claims 1 and 4 and the claims dependent therefrom are in full compliance with U.S. practice and therefore overcome the specific objections raised by the Examiner in the present Office Action.

With respect to the drawings, the Examiner has required that Figures 1 and 2 be designated by the legend "prior art".

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The Examiner has further objected to Figure 16 because of a misspelling of the word "completed". Applicant has submitted herewith a Request to Amend Drawings which addresses each of the Examiner's objections to Figures 1, 2 and 16. Applicant agrees to submit new formal drawings for Figures 1, 2 and 16 upon receiving notification of allowable subject matter in this application.


Applicant has briefly reviewed the prior art references made of record in the Official Action and not relied upon, and believes them to be no more pertinent to the present invention than discussed in the present Office Action.

Applicant submits, by reason of the amendments to the claims and drawings and the comments set forth herein, that this application is in condition for immediate allowance. Therefore, reconsideration of claims 1-6 as are now pending in this application is earnestly solicited, and an early notice of allowance thereof is respectfully requested. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken, it is respectfully requested that he telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he may have.

No fee is believed necessary for this response. However, if the Examiner believes a fee is due, he is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

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